The Pesition of Women in Turkish Society. NSTANTINOPLE, Sunday, Dec. 1, 1850.

Constantinor the Editors of The Tribune: If, from the materialities of life, we turn our eyes upon the moral and intellectual condition of the Musulman nations, we find no greater encouragement. I do not find my models here in Stamboul where imitation of European customs has wrought a wonderful change-if not in the hearts and minds of the true believers, at least in their outward appearance. When foreigners, walking through the streets or the bazzars of Stamboul, see a Turkish nobleman stuffed in his riding coat, tight trousers, and French varnished boots, they candidly admire the powerful action of civil and political reform, and prophesy that the Turks will soon join the Christians on the path of civilization and progress. How little do they-those who judge in this way, from superficial appearancesknow what dirty persons are wrapt up in those rich and elegant clothes, or what real barbarism is hidden under that outward show of good breeding and humanity. Let them cross the Bosphorus or sail down through the Dardanelles; land at Ecutari, Ismid, Smyrna or Beyrout; proceed into Asia Minor or Syria, and they will soon be convinced that no seed of prosperity or reforma. tion has been cast abroad by the pretended reformers of Turkey; that the whole bulk of the Moslem laws is intended to prevent the progress of the people in civil life, and that nothing short of a total renunciation of the Mohammedan super. stitions can redeem them from their inveterate and almost desperate wretchedness.

The mutual relations between man and woman in Tarkey are little known to foreigners. Men being completely excluded even from the sight of a Turkish female, they generally and implicitly adopt the absurd notions which circulate abroad about them and their unbappy condition. When we bear of a Turkish household, we most commonly represent it as the abode of at least a dozen bayadères, all only intent on pleasing their lord and master, who, after baving lent a gratified ear to their singing, and a pleased eye to their dancing, throws the sighed for handkerchief to the favorite of the day. We think the possession of [that handkerchief the supreme object of their wishes, and the obtaining it the reward of their utmost exertions. Timid, trembling, injured but not resenting, modest, retiring, loving and graceful; such do we behold them in our fancywhilst their despotic masters appear to us all tha is fierce, oppressive and tyrannical. Such were indeed, the models which the legislator had in view when he framed the chapters of his Code concerning women, marriage, etc.

But one thing worth our attention is, that woman has never rebelled at, nor shrunk from, the lot for which man has destined her, though that lot be as bard as human nature can endure. But let it be observed, also, that women never and no where fail to exercise about the same influence, let their exterior condition differ as much as fate will have it. The wife of the Indian Chief, who dares not lift her eyes to the face of her husband, knows how to lead him toward the object of her wishes as well-better, perhaps, than the French lady knows how to hold her sway over the circle of

her admirers. But if there is no difference in the degree of influence exercised by women upon men in the most unlike stations of life, there is a great deal of difference in the manner in which that in fluence is exercised. A good or bad effect goes with the openness or the stealthiness of its nature. In a country where feminine influence is openly and lawfully exercised for right and proper objects, that influence must be of the most salu. tary kind. But the more stealthily it is used for selfish ends and through shameful means, the more immoral its action must be. And so it is with the Turks. Women are a source of corrup-

tion in their state of society, and contribute in a strong degree to its debasement. Turks have natural good feelings in them; they even possess an instinctive delicacy of soul which preserves them from utter ruin. That delicacy, and those good feelings are quite e vident in their behavior to their women whom their laws enable them to treat more like beasts than Nowhere is the feminine away more absolute than in a Turkish barem. A true Turkish husband may sometimes try to alleviate his sorrows and his troubles by stealing a tender look at some pretty slave of his lawful spouse, or by calling a younger and milder partner to divide the harem's scepter with his sour-tempered dame. But even such things, though rather common in the families of some Christian countries, are not of easy or frequent occurrence among the Mussulmans. The husband has no right to meddle or to interfere in his wife's household, and if she discovers an in. trigue going on between her lord and one of her women, her fury and her revenge know no bounds-The woman can be beaten to death by her mistress without the husband and master daring to interfere. In fact he had better look to himself because, though in Turkey you never behold a husband beating his wife, a wife beating her husband is by no means so rare an occurrence. And though the man might retort in the same manner, he does not, and would be ashamed of doing it. I know of some husbands who have had the honor and ornament of their chins cruelly and wholly plucked out by their wives, without uttering a single threat or a curse, or offering the least return. They smiled and blushed, shook their heads and tried to disengage their beards, but without evincing any symptom of anger. The admittance of a second wife where a first is already installed, never happens but with the comsent of the latter. She is sometimes so stupid and so weary of her monotonous existence as gladly to accept a companion, though this will rob her of the affection of a man she does not love. Sometimes, if the first wife is too old to bear children, and if the existence of a male heir is necessary to the welfare of the family, she gives, though reluctantly, her consent. But then her happy days are closed indeed, for if man never ty. rannizes over nor torments woman, women are by no means so forbearing toward each other. Beside the sway that the natural mildness of manbood has allowed women to exercise, there is a sort of protection afforded them by law, of which they well know how to take advantage. A wo-

Another circumstance which emboldens woman to do their worst when they are so inclined, is the atter repugnance felt and acknowledged by the male part of the population to bringing them before the judges and having them punished. If a woman were found in the streets of Stamboul committing a murder, perhaps she would be ar rested, but it is not altogether sure. And certainly except in the case of an evident crime of such magnitude, you will find it impossible to set the law against her. Soldiers and police men will refuse to lay hands upon her, gaolers to turn their keys upon her, judges to prosecute her, and executioners to execute her. Take an illustration of this fact. A Christian woman who called her-

man dissatisfied with her husband goes to the

Cadi, lays at his door her babouches or slippers

turned wrong side out, (which signifies something

very dishonorable,) and the judge calls the hus-

band before him, reads him a lecture, and pro-

nounces the dissolution of the nuptial tie. Nothing

can prevent this conclusion, since though the hus-

band may awear the accusation to be false, if the

wife maintains it to be true, it is considered so.

LETTERS OF AN EXILE-No. VIII. | self a subject of the Sublime Porte, but was reclaimed by the French Ambassador, as a native of Marseilles, wished to get possession of a document of great moment to her, then deposited in the hands of the Musti, it being necessary for the success of a law-suit she was carrying on against some of her French relations. She went to the Mufti and begged him to examine the document in her presence, as she wished to inquire into some part of it. The confident Mufti unlocked the case, took out the document and began reading it, when the lady jumped at him, seized the paper, put it in her bosom, and swept proudly off, the Mufti never daring to stop her. Thereupon the French Ambassador required that the woman should be delivered to him, to which the Turkish authorities willingly assented, but observed that they had no subordinate who would lay hands upon a woman. "Never mind," answered the Ambassador, "I will do the business with my own Zavas," (guards.) He sent them to the lady's domicile to arrest her. "Will you come with us ?" asked one Zava. "Certainly not," she replied, "and force me if you dare." "We dure not touch her." said the Zavas, turning to the Ambassador's Secretary, who had been sent to command the expedition,-"nor can you find any man of our nation who will." Such being the case, the Ambassador was obliged to entrust the affair to the marine soldiers of a French vessel which was there under his orders.

Much has been said about manly jealousy, and feminine fidelity; but the most of that much is false. Women never show their faces, but that is the limit of their modesty and virtue. Education being completely absent in the highest classes as well as in the lowest, women in the first ranks of society feel no reluctance in taking notice of the lowest and poorest individual, as a servant, or a carrier, provided he has a fine appearance. Though forbidden from receiving any male visitor in the sanctum sanctorum of their homethey are allowed to go out even on foot, and without any attendance but that of a female servant, who never dares to remonstrate with her mistress, but rather acts the part of a French soubrette or of a Spanish duenna. So attended every lady goes where she pleases-meets whomever she desires. No doubt she would be severely punished if a lover were detected in her husband's house; but as she can go to any other domicile without fear of detection, the restrictions imposed on her liberty are not very great. Husbands are well aware of the dangerous predicament in which they stand, but bend to necessity and console themselves by thinking and saying that their wives will be faithful to them, if such be the will of Allah.

CHRISTINE TRIVULIZIO BELGIOIOSO.

NICARAGUA.

The City of Granada-Tropleal Landscapes Future of Central America-Mechanics Wanted-Agriculture-Products of the Soil German Emigrants-Charfield and his De-Ings-The Mosquito Nation-German Embgrants and English Speculators. Correspondence of The Trib GRANADA DE NICARAGUA, Dec. 20, 1850.

MESSES. EDITORS: Granada, one of the largest towns of Nicaragua, and unquestionably the most important, as regards the inland trade of the country, possesses one of the finest sites in the world. Approaching it from the sea, the houses are concealed in the magnificent trees, which shadow the shore, all around the city; only the towers of a few churches rise above the foliage. The ruins of a Spanish Castle stand near the water. The strand is drawn with a smooth and softly-curving line, and is planted, as far as the eye can reach, with fine trees, under which we undress, to bathe in the Lake. In the shadow are venders of fruit, which the Californian invariably buys, before he sets sail for San Carlos. Here, also sounds the axe of the American ship-carpenter. The city is about three-quarters of a mile inland, and the space between it and the shore consists of thick chapparal, with here and there a garden. In a few years, however, the city, which now has about 18,000 inhabitants, will stretch down to the shore, and piers of warehouses will take up the room where half-naked washerwomen now ply their business, and hundreds of bathers congregate. Behind the city rises a range of wooded hills, which connect with the volcanic cone of Mombacho, about 5,000 feet in height-a prominent feature of the landscape. The large sland of Zapatero, which furnishes the best wood for ship-building in the neighborhood, has a lower cone than Mombacho. A promontory which ounds the bay on which the city is situated, consists mostly of numerous small islands, separated by narrow channels of the sea. They are stony but very fertile; two generally form an estate, one being used for the residence of the owner and the other for his plantation.

Seen from the high ridges back of the city, the whole landscape appears with new beauties. You look down on the city, whose houses and churches rise from the midst of a forest of vegetation. Still further, beyond the pictures que groups of the trees, spreads the broad surface of the Lake, almost constantly glittering in the light of a clear sun, and bounded in the distance by the mountains of Chontales and Matsgalpa. The crowns of the cocoa palms, which rise ab ve the other trees, and stand out, sharply defined against the blue sheet of water, give the scene that genuine tropical character, which one easily forgets, as long as

cal character, which one cashy brigges, as being the does not happen to stand in a banana plantation or between hedges of yucca.

A few days ago I rode to the neighboring city of Masaya, on the way to Leon. The road loads rough a park-like country, an alternation of grove, thicket and open savunna. Galy here and there a clump of cactus, or a solitary palm, gave the vegetation a tropical character. The city it-self, however, lies amid the most luxuriant gardens, and plantations of bananas, oranges, and all kinds of tropical fruit trees and ornamental growths. At a short distance rises a volcanic mountain of considerable beight, the crater of which was active during the last century.

GRANADA, Saturday, Dec. 21, 1850. There is no doubt that in a short time Granada will be an important city and a seat of enterprize and trade. All who have traveled through the country from the Pacific Ocean-and companies are daily arriving from California-are of opinion that Granada deserves preference over all other ities of the coast, although the country around Leon and Chinandega is much more thickly peopled and better cultivated. If the great projected Ship Canal should be carried through into Lake Managua, or Leon, the future importance of Granada would be placed beyond a doubt; and even in case that the Canal should go direct from Lake Nicaragua to the barbor of San Juan del Sur, on the Pacific Ocean, or the Gulf of Papagallo, this city would remain the center of all inland trade and of all great undertakings. Already among the native population, it is the active principle of the country. There is already a large number of foreigners here, who have either settled permanently, or intend doing so. I hear, from many of the returned Californians, that they intend coming Intelligent and widely back assin, to remain. traveled men tell me that this is the most beautiful country in the world, and that they find the opportunities afforded by its present condition in he bighest degree attractive.

The project of colonization called into exist-ence by Bulow, has brought here many intelligent German families, such as Dr. Bernhard, from Brobschütz, Assessor Streber, from Königsberg, and others. Several vessels that have sailed from Bremen with emigrants, are expected shorty. If they bring therman mechanics, with a suf-clear means to establish themselves, their ar-wal will mark an epoch in the affairs of the country. This class of people is most wanted here,

and if they come from an industrious stock they cannot fail to succeed. cannot fall to succeed. Many important traces are entirely wanting here, and others deal out very slowly their coatly and imperfect work.— Shoemakers appear to be most needed. For \$1 25 to \$1 50 we buy a pair of light brown the coarse side turned outward, they are always worn by pedestrians and borsemen. Agriculture, also, demands the energy of a new emigration. One can scarcely imagine what treasures the present soil and climate are able to bring forth, and how little use has been made of them. Sugar, coffee, chocolate, rice, maize, tobacco, indigo flourish as luxuriantly as in any other locality According to the decision of the best judges, the sugarcane surpasses that of all other lands, the tobacco is better than that of Cuba, and cotton, in some localities, attains a remarkable fineness. Of all these products, not the tenth part of the quantity is obtained, which even a moderate cultivation would bring forth. In the more tempemountain districts, maize is cultivated and grows admirably, although the flour which is now ust coming into use for bread, is still brought from

There is the greatest abundance of fruits and vegetables. Even now when every thing is sold at double its former price, you may buy for live cents as many of the finest bananas as would support a man for two days. Oranges, lemons, citions, pineapples, mangoes, papayas, cocoa nuts, and many other kinds of fruit, are always on hand, as well as all kinds of tropical roots and vegetables. The temperature never rises much higher than on a warm summer-day in Germany, never so high as the hottest days in New Washington and Richmond. York. sarity of the climate is that this temperature ne ver varies through the whole year. All vege-tables of the temperate zone, such as beans, peas, potatoes, beets and cabbages, thrive here equally well, but they are supplanted by so man vegetables of native growth, that one does not feel the want of them. Some resemble potatoes, others beets and others cucumbers, but beans are the favorite dish of the natives and are universally cultivated. The dry sort, of a brownish-red color, under the name of frijoles, is an indispen-sable article on all Spanish tables. Cattle, hogs and poultry are in great abundance. Add to this that many valuable products grow to superfluity without labor, such as dye-wood, mahogany, rose-wood, iron-wood, caoutchoue, (India-rul/ber,) vanilla and medicinal plants, (such as ipecacuanha, jalap, copaiva, cassia, &c.) and that the useful metals, copper, iron and lead abound, and you can ap-proximate to an idea of the great resources of this favored land.

I am firmly persuaded, not only from my own experience, which is yet small, but from the uni-versal declaration of Germans who have long been settled here, that the climate agrees per-fectly with persons from the north of Europe, and ald cut them off from no occupation or branch of agriculture whatever. The Government particularly favorable to the settlement The Government is man emigrants, and has even offered the Colonization Society of Berlin tracts of land for that purpose, free of cost. In fact, there is no doubt that the Germans impart much of the impulse which the country is now receiving. It is re-markable how great is the proportion of Germans among the travelers returning from California. The most of those with whom I have spokes, having earned semething at gold-digging, now go to pay a visit to their homes, and intend returning immediately to this place. In San Juan the number of Germans is also proportionably large. There is a German house there, which, in connection with a French house, has rented of the English Government the revenue of the Custom-House. ish Government the revenue of the Custom-House. This brings me back to the state of affairs in ment the revenue of the Custom-House San Juan. It is just reported here that certain ntelligence has arrived that San Juan will be a free port after the 1st of January. If this eventfor such it would be to the trade of the countryshould occur, you would probably learn it in NewYork as soon as we, in the interior of the country.
In the meantime the British Consul-General for
Central America, Mr. Frederic Chatfield, block
ades the port of San Miguel, on the Pacific Ocean,
in the State of San Salvador, under pretences
which could only have weight, when exercised by
the brute force of an inscient Power against a the brute force of an insolent Power against small and weak State. It is the fable of the sheep, whom the wolf accused of making the water maddy, while he drank. The common gos-sip of Central America adds that the blockade will last just as long a time as Mr. Chatfield needs to make capital for himself and some trading bouses here with whom he is connected, at the approaching indigo fair in San Juan. It is to be hoped that the great interest which the civilized world feels toward this country, will not suffer it to be much longer exposed to such possibilities as this, or to such downright trickery as the estab-lishment of the Mosquito Kingdom.

This latter kingdom is often mentioned in the United States, but always under the erroneous idea that it is a reality. The public must know, however, that the entire kingdom is conlined to a young man of the same reality. young man of the sameo race, a mixture of negro and Indian blood,) and his sister, who are both under the authority of an English missionary. For role which he must play, he receivesrightly informed—sn annual stipend of \$1, with which the expenses of his Court, and in his entire kingdom must be paid. The Mosquito Nation never existed. The King, as well as a few sabordinates whom he has around him, use the English language, because it has been taught him, and because he belongs to no particular tribe. The Indians, however, who dwell in the interior of Mosquitia, neither give themselves this name, nor understand the English or any other European language, except a little Spanish, nor kno take any notice of this improvised chimera of a And England receives, after sul ing the splendid allowance which she pays to her royal vassal, the entire revenues of the port, cus-

ms, taxes and licenses. With these hasty lines I must conclude. In a few days I shall set out for Leon, the capital of the State, and then continue my journey to Chin-andega and Realejo. I shall afterward visit the ng districts of Segovia, Chontales and Matalpa. These journeys will give me material further letters.

DECEMBER 22, 1850. I have just spoken with a German who arrived in one of the two Bremen vessels I spoke of in my previous letter. The greater portion of the emigrants, on arriving in San Juan, suffered themselves to be persuaded to go to Costa Rica. This happened through the schemes of English specu-lators, who needed laborers for their plantations white slaves, in short. The most of these peopl will be ruined. So shameless are the doings at San Juan, that letters from here, which describe things in their true light, are suppressed at that place. I understand that there were several carpenters on those vessels, who could easily earn their \$10 a day here.

North-Western South America. | Extract from a private letter from Lines, communicated for The Tribune |

THE ENGLISH STEAMERS. The day after our arrival at Panama, I embarked on board the English steamer Peru. All of the boats on this route are much smaller than the California Mail steamers. The cabins, however, are far more comfortable and well provided with sofas and lounges. We had but very few passengers. Among the number was the Count ie Montholon and family, bound for Quito, where he has been appointed as the French Minister. The table upon the Peru is far superior to that of the Panama, notwithstanding that they have the very best of markets to procure their provisions. It is badly served, badly cooked and no variety.

TOWNS ON THE COAST. As soon as we were out of Panama Bay the weather became so cold that it was really unpleasant to remain on deck. The difference of temperature between San Diego and Panama, and Panama and Callao must be some forty degrees. The first port we made after Panama was San Beuna Venturs, a miserable, dirty looking town, in-habited by Negroes and Indians. We remained there, bowever, but a few hours and then started for Guayaquil, where we arrived in four days from the time of leaving San Buena Ventura. Guayaquil is suated upon a river of the same name, about forty miles from its mouth, and is one of the prettiest towns in South American. The houses, centrary to the usual Spanish custom, are built of wood instead of brick, and being generally wel painted, have not the dilapidated appearance of most of the towns on this coast.

most of the towns on this coast.

The morning we arrived I went ashore and made a tour of the city. The fruits there are most delicious, and in greater perfection than in almost any other part of the world. Pine apples. oranges, femons, bananas, peaches, granadillos,

and in fact every description of tropical fruit was to be found in the market, and at the cheapest possible prices. Oranges, a rial a dozen, pine apples from sixpence to a shilling a piece, lemons for the asking, and so on. After seeing all there was to be seen I went on board, and soon was steaming down one of the most beautiful rivers in the world. The inxuriance of the vegetation far surpassed anything I had ever seen, with the sole exception of the Chagres River, but there it is wild and monotonous; here, on the contrary, every few minutes we would see the huts of the Indi ans peeping out from amidst the overhanging for here and there the country seat, surrounded with groves of orange and cocoa trees, of some wealthy bacendado. But unfortunately there is a reverse to the picture. A species bilious fever is very prevaient, and almost cer-tain death to the European, and mosquitos hover about in clouds. The next day we came to an-cher in Payta. There is the most remarkable contrast between the appearance of the two States, distant but a few leagues from each other In Eucador nature is clothed in her fairest and most beautiful robes, but in Peru you see no traces of vegetation—everything dry and parched, for it never rains on the coast of Peru. Payta is a most detestable hole, built on a sand bank, and completely surrounded by sand hills. As far as the eyes can reach nothing meets the gaze but one continued extent of sand, sand-and it would re quire but little stretch of the imagination to fan-cy one's self upon the borders of the great Afri-can desert. In the interior, however, in the valleys of the rivers, the vegetation is very laxuri-

We remained on shore some hours, ennuyes la mort, but the steamer was watering, and it was impossible to remain on board. About dark, howwe got under weigh again, and the follow ing afternoon were at Lambiaki, a miscrable place, remarkable for nothing but its being a place, remarkable for nothing but its being a great sugar depot, and for having a tremendous sur! It is impossible to go ashore in boats, and the only means practicable for landing or receiving passeggers and cargo, are some huge rafts made of very light wood, and called balaus, which are as unweildy and unmanageable as any one

We were heartily glad to leave Lambiaki, and at daylight the next morning found ourselves at Huanchuw, a port almost as difficult to land at as Lambiaki. We, however, were favored by a smooth sea, and the captain and some of the pas-sengers went ashore. We there procured some excellent horses, and set out for Trujillo, an old Spanish town, some two leagues from the sea-In the road we passed the ruins of an ancient In diancity, which is said to extend nine leagues, or eighty-one miles in one direction, and is supposed to have contained at the time of the discovery of the country by the Spaniards over two millions of inhabitants. The walls of the houses (of adobe are still in a good state of preservation, and it is easy to trace out with the eye the palaces, which were very numerous, the temples, the places of sacrifice, the streets, in a word, the whole plan the city as it existed hundreds of years ago. American is now at work taking sketches, and you will probably soon have a full account of the city published in New-York. If so, I recommend it to your attention.

A BIT OF HIGH CIVILIZATION.

On arriving at Trujillo, we were agreeably disappointed to find a clean, pretty town with foun tains, plazas and alamedas in fine order, and some of the houses such as would not disgrace New-York. One house in particular is a perfect palace, and although not yet finished, has cost al. ready over two hundred thousand dollars. Every mode. One of Erard's grand pianos, a splendid library framed in oak a la Louis Quatorzo—the furniture resewood with blue and white satin. The courtyards, of which there are three, paved with black and white marble, and in the r fountains casting their waters to the sun, and falling back in marble basins surrounded by rare and great waste of money to construct such a place in a little town where there are only means of communication once a month, and very uncertain

After breakfasting at the fonda, we mounted again, took a paseo round the town, and then started back for the steamer. The day following we were at Casmu, a mere landing place, and the next at Callao. As you are not permitted to remain on board the steamer, a course to which I was somewhat inclined, I started shortly after our arrival for this place.

BAD ROAD TO LIMA

The distance from Callao to Lima is six miles, and over a most wretched road. Omnibuses sent out from the States run almost hourly, and I was olted to my heart's content. They are however, constructing a Hailway which will be a great improvement over the present mode of transpo provement over the present mode of transporta-tion. I found Limn quite equal to my expectations. It is a clean, quiet place, abounding in Churches and Convents, and there are some very handsome stores. In fact it is astonishing how many handsome stores there are in these semi-civilized p In Mazatian there are a dozen, equal in every re-spect but the plate glass fronts, to anything in Broadway, and the goods as a general thing richer, THE THEATER-HARD TIMES.

In the evening I attended the Theatre, and paid dearly for it, for the hard scats without cushions so pained me that I was obliged to leave before the performance was over, and to-day I am so rheumatic that I can scarcely stir from my sofa.

I saw a fair sprinkling of Limenas at the Theatre, but was disappointed in their appearance.-They are very fair, as much so as our ladies, and they are mostly well formed, but pretty faces are a rarity. Of some one hundred of the elite of the fair sex who then were present, I saw but one pretty face, but that was beautiful!

In a day or two there is to be a grand funcion de tows, and all Lima will be there. In the evening a ball will be given, and I shall then be better able to frm correct ideas of the beauty and fashion

The former costume of the saya y man'a is out and they dress according to the latest Parisian fashion

A Veteran Philanthropist.

PROVIDENCE, R. I. Thursday, Oct. 24. While noticing your persevering efforts in behalf of Free Schools for the State of New-York, I thought that it would give you pleasure to hear of a veteran who has been an eilicient worker in the same good cause in Rhode Island.

There is now living in this city, at the age of ninety-three years, a gentleman-John Howland -to whom much bonor is due for the enlightened and efficient efforts he has made during his long life in behalf of institutions which are considered as common necessities in every enlightened community, but which, in the days of their first introduction, were opposed by the prejudices and habits of the times, as are most innovations of whatever kind. Wirt, in his Life of Patrick

Henry, says: "Innovations, however correct in themselves, never fail to startle those who have grown gray in a veneration for the existing order of things. They fancy that they see in every important change an indirect blow at the established government, and at the foundations of their own prop-

Among other efforts for the good of the People Mr. Howland took the iniative in the establish ment of Free Schools in Rhode Island in the year 1799. Being at that time Secretary of the Mechanics' Association, he introduced to the notice of the Association the project of memorializing the General Assembly upon the subject of the establishment of Free Schools in this State; the Association, with an enlightened ardor often found in bodies composed of the workingmen of a community, heartily entered into his views and adopted the memorial which he had drawn up, and which was subsequently presented to the General Assembly. In order to secure the pas-sage of an act for the establishment of an institution which he had so much at heart, he visited several towns in the State for the purpose of inducing them to pass instructions to their several Representatives in the General Assembly to vote for the act. He was successful in his efforts; the set establishing Free Schools was passed at their Session in February, 1800. His labors in the good cause did not end here,

but for many years he acted as Committee man

in the care and supervision of the Schools, the procuring of books, and the thousand necessary matters attending the organization and manage ment of the Schools, and doing all gratuitously. supporting himself in the meanwhile by his in-

dustry at his mechanical trade.
He followed his trade until he was elected Town Treasurer in 1818, in which office he served the town until the formation of the City Govern-

ment in 1852 He is the recipient of a pension for his services in the War of the Revolution, having been attached to the Rhode Island Regiment, in which capacity he did good service at Trenton and else where. He is full of antiquarian lore, and as where. He is full of antiquarian lore, and as President of the Rhode Island Historical Society which office he now holds—has been very cicient in rescuing from oblivion matters of deep

interest to the history of the State.

A MECHANIC. The Completion of the Code ... No. V.

From the Evening Post.

If the code were completed according to the plan recommended by the Commissioners, it would be to a road derivation of the Commissioners. he in a good degree safe from the perversions to which it is now subject. Many of the misconstructions which it has suffered, are owing to an imperfect comprehension of its principles, to the accompleteness of some of its parts, and to the eaving as much of the old law in for leaving as much of the old law in force. The two-latter causes will cease to operate when the work is completed, and the first will gradually die away

There are, it is true, some misconstructions to which it is difficult to assign so charitable a cause. It is indeed no secret that many of the judges, and some think a majority of them, have felt from the beginning a repugnance to the code, which it is easier to explain, than to defend and that in is easier to explain, than to defend and that in some instances this repugnance has led to perversions, or manifested itself in language, which did not become the bench. Much may be forgiven to the disappointed prejudices of a whole life; but the line which separates the legislative and judicial departments of Government is, in theory at least, so well understood, that when w Judge denouncing from the bench acts of the Legislature, which he is sworn to administer, and for which it is his duty to inculcate respect, we are apt to think that he has forgotten his office, also, that he is not the best teacher of regard for that law under which he holds his station, nor the best example to those who may be brought

to his bar. It would be an idle waste of time, to mention here the various instances of misconstruction, which the code has suffered. The bar is familiar with them, and if they are not known to the pub-lic, it is only through the forbearance of those who are most concerned. One instance only will be given, as an example, the name of the Judge being

On the 4th of June last, the following decision was reported in the newspapers of this city:
"When judgment has been recovered against
several joint debtors, and he who was not originally summoned, is summoned under S. 375 of the Code, to show cause why he should not be bound by the judgment, it would seem, that no judgment can be rendered against him on such proceeding, unless be shall put in an answer-the proceeding being in derogation of the common law, and aiming at rendering judgment against a party without bringing a suit against him, the Court cautake no

There are six sections of the code applicable to the subject. S. 375 allows the summons; S. 377 prescribes its form; S. 378 requires an affidavit to accompany it; S. 379 declares that "upon such summons, the party summoned may answer within the time specified therein, denying the ment or setting up any defence, which may have arisen subsequently; and in addition thereto, i he be proceeded against according to section he may make the same defense, which he mig have originally made to the action, except the statute of limitations," S. 380-"The party is suing the summons may demur or reply to the answer, and the party summoned may demur to the reply, and the issues may be tried, and judgthe reply, and the issues hay be tried, and many ment may be given in the same manner as in an action, and enforced by execution, or the application of the property charged to the payment of the judgment may be enforced by attachment, if necessary. S. 407—"The rule of the common law, that statutes in deregation of that law are to be strictly enoughed has no application to this act." e strictly construed, has no application to this act. Of course, no legislation can effectually guard sgainst such misconstruction as this; but it can do much, it can help to give the code a fair trial, and that is what its friends desire, and what

they have a right to claim.

The preceding observations have chiefly regarded the Code of Civil Procedure. There are abundant reasons also why the Code of Crimial Procedure. cedure should be passed, most of which will readily suggest themselves. It is time that the forms of indictments, forms which, with their un-couth phraseology and their technical niceties, are a reproach to our civilization, should be re formed, and a new system of pleading adopted that the duties of the officer who arrests, and the rights of the person who is arrested, should be better defined: that the means of injuring the mocent and of releasing the guilty, which now to some degree exist, should be wholly taken way, and that there should be written. bands of every magistrate-and of every citizen ndeed-a manual, sanctioned by the authority of the State, from which he may at all times know his duties and his rights in relation

crime committed or charged

closing these articles, I should not omit to mention, what perhaps I should have stated at the outset, as the strongest motive of all for the prompt action of the Legislature, that the clause of the Constitution under which the Commission to report the Code was organized, evidently con templates that the Legislature shall act upon their reports. It requires the Commissioners to "report thereon to the Legislature, subject to their addition and modification, from time to time." T reports are made; they are subject to the adoption and modification of the Legislature; but can the Legislature refuse to act upon the subject? Can they render futile the provision of the Constitution by declining to carry it out? Can they nullify it by remaining inactive? It is not to be supposed eed, that they have any disposition to and I trust the session will not pass without their decisive action. They will be engaged with plans for developing the resources and increasing the wealth and power of the State; but may they not forget, meanwhile, that the noblest work in which vernment can engage is the melloration

Subscriptions Received to the Dally Tribune, Subscriptions received to The Semi-Weekly.

Subscriptions Rec'd to the Weekly Tribune.

New York. 4 Linois. Verm pl. Wisconsin Wisconsin.... 2 Maine

Suicide -A horrible suicide was committed by Henry Picard, of Elizabeth City, N. C. on the 23d of January. It seems that in his desperate resolution to destroy his life, Mr. P. first attempt-ed to cut his throat, and inflicted upon himself a frightful wound; failing in this, he took down a gun, put the muzzle in his mouth and attempted to blow out his brains-but it would not go off-He finally seized a canister of powder, to which he applied a torch, and a terrible explosion followed, tearing open the windows and shattering everything in its way. The unfortunate viction f his own rashness was found in a shockingly mutilated condition, but not yet dead. He lin-gered until the next day, when he expired. Inmperance and domestic troubles induced the Balt. Pat. HEAVY DAMAGES .- The Bloomington (McLean

County, Obio) Whig says that the father of young Bryant, who died from injuries received from the operating of a stage, last Sammer, has recovered fiften thousand dollars damages against Measrs Frink & Co of Chicago, the stage profrietors

CITY ITEMS.

THE WALL-ST. DEFALCATION-EXAMINATION OF RAY TOMPKINS .- The examination of Ray Tompkins was commenced on Saturday morning at the Police Court, before Justice Lothrop. The Court room was crowd d, the brokers interested in the case, being alone sufficient to constitute a large audience. The prisoner entered the room at 10 o'clock in company with his Counsel, John Van Buren, Esq. Mr. Blunt, District Attorney and Mr. Cutting, appeared for the prosecution.

Mr. Benj. Nathan, a broker, was the first witness xamined. Mr. Nathan deposed that Ray Tompoins had bought of him 100 shares of the Farmers' examined. Loan and Trust Co. at 671, to be delivered and paid next day (29th Jan.) The next day com-plainant sent his brother to Tompkins for a check, the sale amounting to \$3,362 50. His brother came back, stating that Tompkins would send the certified check in the course of a few minutes, as soon as the boy would return from the bank. This was about 1 P.M. On this statement Mr. Nathan went to the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Co. and transferred the 100 shares to Ray Tomp-kins, who stood by and witnessed the transfer. When he returned to his office, Mr. Nathan did not find the check. This was nearly 2 P.M. He went to the office of Mr. Tompkins, but he was not there, but his clerk was, and also another gentleman .-The clerk stated that Mr. T. had gone to the bank with different checks, among which was that of the complainant. Mr. Nathan waited at T.'s office 15 minutes more, but neither Mr. T. nor his clerk came back. He then became alarmed, went to the bank in order to inquire. In Cortlandt at, he met T. s clerk, who told him that Tompkins was not at the Bank; and in the Bank he was inform ed that Tompkins had been there half an hour be fore, but that no check in favor of Mr. Nathan had been certified. Complainant then went to the office of Tompkins, when, after a brief interval, the clerk opened a drawer, and lo! there lay a quantity of checks, among which was that in aver of the complainant of the sum of \$3,352 50 Mr. Nathan took possession of his check immed ately and ran off to the Bank, it then being 3 o'clock. I presented the check for judgment, but received an answer that no funds of Mr. Tompkins

were there.

Nothing further being elicited in the cross-examination by Mr. Van Buren, Robert C. Boyd, Transfer Clerk of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Co. was examined, and testified as follows: I am Co. was examined, and testified as follows: I am transfer clork at the Farmers' Loan and Trust Co. No. 28 Exchange-place: I have been there en-gaged six or seven years. The witness testified to the transfer of 100 shares of stock by Mr. Nathan to Hay Tompkins, which stock was almost immediately transferred again by Ray Tompkins to Drew, Robinson & Co. On the same day 200 to Drew, Robinson & Co. On the same day 200 shares were transferred by Ray Tompkins to Hopkins & Western. No other transfer was made by Tompkins on that day; he had none left then on the books. Beside Mr. Nathan's 100 shares, there were on the same day transferred by Cammann & Whitehouse 150 shares to Ray Tompkins, and 200 shares by H. T. Morgan.

E. H. Arthur, sworn-1 am assistant cashler in the Union Bank; I cashed a check drawn by Ryher, Alstyne & Co. for \$25,000 for Mr. Ray Tompkins, on the 22th of January; I had certified Jacob Little's check for \$2,010 on that morning for Mr. Tompkins.

John Thompson, sworn-I am First Teller in the Merchants' Exchange Bank; Ray Tompkins kept his account in our Bank; on the 29th of Jan. he presented a check drawn by himself, and drew he presented a check drawn by himself, and drew out \$7,100: I at the same time certified for him a check for \$2,000, in favor of a Mr. Williams; on the same day I cashed a check for \$4,100 for Mr. Tompkins's clerk; previous to 2 o'clock on that day he had deposited over \$33,000; other checks beside that of Mr. Nathans, drawn by Tompkins, were presented about 3 o'clock, and refused for want of funds; previous to the presentation of these last checks Tompkins had overdrawn his

account \$150, which has not yet been paid.

Isaac N. Foreler, sworn.—I am an attorney-atlaw: saw Mr. Ray Tempkins between 4 and 5
o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. Kipp, corner of
Charles and Hudson sts; he had sent for me; While there, Mr. Van Buren, Mr. Chas. Kipp and Mr. Solomon Kipp came in the room; on that oc-casion, I received from Mr. Tompkins \$1,100 in money and a pocket book containing papers; [s list of the effects was here shown; one mort gage was for \$5,000 and another for 500; this property was assigned to me for the benefit of the creditors of Mr. Tompkins. The case was here adjourned to Monday at \$

Assault .- A fellow named James O'Donnell was arrested on Friday night charged with assaulting Thomas Sweeney, of 496 Pearl st. with a knife, inflicting a severe wound in his face, and nearly cutting his nose off. He was locked up by Justice Lothrop for trial.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held yesterday at No. 112 Bank st upon the body of John Miller, who, on Saturday evening was found dead, his neck having been broken, at the corner of Four-teenth st. and Ninth avenue. As the deceased was of very intemperate habits, it is supposed that while intoxicated he fell, causing the fatal A verdict of accidental death was ren-

DEATH .- The Coroner held an inquest yester day at the City Hospital upon the body of George Lower, 25 years of age, born in Germany, who fell from a derrick in Fourteenth st. about nice days since, and died on Saturday night from the injuries received. Verdict accordingly.

DISTURBANCE ON BOARD A FERRY-BOAT .- A disturbance took place on board one of the Cathe rine st. Ferry-boats, between Rugene Thiedon and Cornelius Corson, residing at 183 Bowery, in which the latter received several stabs in the face, inflict ed by his adversary. Thiedon, it appears, was smoking in the ladies' cabin and a female present made some objection. Corson requested him to desist. Angry words ensued and they finally came o blows. On the arrival of the boat at the foot of Catherine st. the parties were arrested. Thiedon was held to bail in \$500 to answer, and one Wm. Dyatt, a friend of his, who is charged with aiding him, was held in \$300.

SLUNG SHOT CASE -A disturbance took place on Saturday evening at the public house corner of Peck-slip and South-st. Wm. Saul, one of the peace breakers, was arrested by officer Harrison of the Second Ward, who while on his way to the Station-House with his prisoner was assaulted by some others of the gang and knocked senseless with a slung shot. His prisoner escaped but was soon after retaken and committed to prison for

Accident -Thes. Moore, residing at the corner of Thirty-eighth at and Ninth-avenue, was knocked down by a carriage and horses and soverely in jured on the corner of Sixteenth-st. and Fifth-av mue. He was conveyed to his residence

STILL MORE KIDNAPPING .- We learn from the Centreville (Md.) Times that about the same time the kidnapping affair took place in that vicinity, a free woman was kidnapped by a man residing in Kent County, and sold to Messrs. Price & Motifit, at Church Hill They ascertained only a few days ago that she was free. Steps have been taken to arrest the kidnapper.

LOCOMOTIVE BALL.-The conductors and engineers on all the railroads in New Englant in-tend uniting in a grand ball at the Marrimas House in Lowell some time this month. The file will be opened with the "Railroad Overture," and sets will form at the sound of the whistle. ere'll be some steam on that night

NEW BEDFORD OIL TRADE -The Whaleman's Shipping List gives the total value of sperm oil entered in the New Bedford District in the year 1850, at \$1,885,143; of whale of, \$1,400,608; o bone, \$501,008. Total value of whale-fishing, \$3, 846,759. The number of vessels entered from foreign ports was 140, of which all but nine were American; 88 of these were employed in the whale fishery, and 52 in the foreign trade. The amount of duties received on merchandise imported during the year, was \$15,503 13. SHARP PREACHING .- The Washington corres

pondent of the Cleveland True Democrat tells the following good story. In one of the prettiest vil-lages in the State of New York, the pastor of the church, in the course of a sermon on the Fugitive Law, broke out as follows: "Brethren, this is not the first Fugitive Law that has been passed Eighteen centuries since, it was enacted that i any man knew where Jesus was he should make to known unto them. Then, as now, (said he,) there were Doctors of Divinity who preached up the duty of obedience to that wicked law; but there was found in the whole land of Judea ONLY ONE SILVER GRAY!"